

Message Text

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ORIGIN NEA-11

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 AID-05 CIAE-00 COME-00 EB-08

FRB-03 INR-10 NSAE-00 ICA-11 TRSE-00 XMB-02

OPIC-03 SP-02 LAB-04 SIL-01 OMB-01 STR-07 DOE-15

SOE-02 L-03 H-01 SSM-03 DODE-00 PA-01 /106 R

DRAFTED BY NEA/RA:DTMORRISON:YW

APPROVED BY NEA/RA:WDOZIER

NEA/ARP:JZIOLKOWSKI

EUR/CE:SKLINGAMAN(SUBS)

-----018751 102208Z /63

R 092223Z JUN 78

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY JIDDA

AMEMBASSY BERN

AMEMBASSY AMMAN

AMEMBASSY ATHENS

AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS

INFO AMEMBASSY LONDON

USLO RIYADH

AMEMBASSY KUWAIT

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ETRD

SUBJECT: ARAB BOYCOTT: RESTRICTIONS ON USE OF FORD TRUCKS

REF: A) STATE 117222; B) DAMASCUS 2652; C) AMMAN 4111

1. FORD MIDDLE EAST OFFICER (WILLIAM BRODERICK) AT FORD HEADQUARTERS HAS PROVIDED DEPARTMENT WITH ADDITIONAL INFORMATION INDICATING THAT EUROPEAN TRUCKING COMPANIES USING LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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FORD TRUCKS IN TRANSCONTINENTAL SHIPMENTS DESTINED FOR SAUDI ARABIA CONTINUED TO ENCOUNTER RESTRICTIONS DURING MONTH OF MAY. ALTHOUGH A NUMBER OF FORD TRUCKS HAVE BEEN PERMITTED TO TRANSIT SYRIA ON BASIS OF EXCEPTIONS GRANTED-- SOMETIMES AT REQUEST OF EUROPEAN EMBASSIES -- FORD TRUCKS APPARENTLY FACE SERIOUS ROADBLOCKS AT VARIOUS POINTS IN TRANSIT INCLUDING GREEK FERRY EMBARKATION POINT. SOME

EUROPEAN TRUCKERS REPORTEDLY ARE NOW RELUCTANT TO ATTEMPT TO USE FORD TRUCKS ON THE RUN TO SAUDI ARABIA. (SIMILAR PROBLEM DOES NOT APPEAR TO ARISE WHEN SHIPMENTS ARE DESTINED FOR JORDAN OR SYRIA.)

2. GROUP OF SWISS TRUCK OPERATORS (KNOWN BY ACRONYM CASPA) REPORTEDLY HAS ASKED SWISS GOVT TO INTERVENE WITH SYRIA ON THEIR BEHALF TO SEEK END TO RESTRICTION ON USE OF THEIR FORD TRUCKS.

3. BRODERICK HAS ASKED DEPARTMENT TO OBTAIN REPORT FROM EMBASSY JIDDA AS TO ANY READING IT IS ABLE TO OBTAIN FROM SAUDI GOVT (OR OTHER SAUDI SOURCES) ON WHAT IS BASIS FOR CURRENT OBSTRUCTION OF USE OF FORD TRUCKS IN TRANSIT TO DELIVER GOODS TO SAUDI ARABIA. BRODERICK HAS GIVEN US FOLLOWING NAME OF SAUDI AGENT REPRESENTING ONE OR MORE OF EUROPEAN SHIPPING COMPANIES ADVERSELY AFFECTED BY SUCH RESTRICTIONS: MOHAMED MOUDAYFER (WITH OFFICES AT RIYADH AND EL HADETHA). ALSO ACTING AS JORDANIAN AGENT IS MOHAMED EL KHATIB (OFFICE AT IRBID).

4. DEPARTMENT WOULD APPRECIATE RECEIVING WHATEVER ADDITIONAL INFORMATION ACTION POSTS CAN DEVELOP ON CAUSE OF CURRENT PROBLEM (ESPECIALLY FROM SAUDI ARABIA) AND ON EXTENT TO WHICH RESTRICTIONS CONTINUE TO BE IMPOSED ALONG ROUTE TO SAUDI ARABIA. VANCE
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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: ARABS, TRUCKS, BOYCOTTS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 09 jun 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978STATE147483
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: DTMORRISON:YW
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780243-0850
Format: TEL
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
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Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780674/aaaacvlu.tel
Line Count: 94
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 88bdbf8b-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ORIGIN NEA
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 78 STATE 117222, 78 DAMASCUS 2652, 78 AMMAN 4111
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 05 may 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: N/A
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 2408914
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: ARAB BOYCOTT: RESTRICTIONS ON USE OF FORD TRUCKS
TAGS: ETRD, SA, US, FORD MOTOR CO
To: JIDDA BERN MULTIPLE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/88bdbf8b-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014